(c) The registration of Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) is in force from 03.12.2004. No definite number can be specified as the applications have to go through different stages in the Indian Missions and posts abroad/ State Governments/Central Government.

(d) Question does not arises.

Commission for Centre-State Relations

837. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to set up one more Commission to take a new look at the Centre-State relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there was no consensus in the Inter-State Council on many recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to set up a new Commission on Centre-State relations which will consist of a Chairman and four full time Members having experience and expertise in respect of Centre-State relations, with a tenure of two years.

(c) and (d) As per the Procedure of the Council for conduct of its business as stipulated in para 5 (e) of the Presidential Order dated May 28,1990, "all questions which may come up for consideration of the Council at a meeting shall be decided by consensus and the decision of the Chairman as to consensus shall be final". Accordingly, the recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission were also decided by consensus in the Inter-State Council.

Image of India as Soft-State

†838. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HOME' AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consequent upon the hijack of IC-814 in 1999, India has got the image as a soft-State;

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government intend to draw some guidelines to take .more decisions for getting rid of such incidents in future;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) After the hijack of IC-814 in 1999, the concerned guidelines have been reviewed and adequate security measures have been taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

New Commission to look into Centre-State Relations

839. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite phased implementation of most of Sarkaria Commission recommendations on Centre-State relations, the Centre-State ties still remain strained at times;

(b) whether the Centre has decided to set up one more Commission to look into the Centre-State relations, post-Sarkaria Commission report; and

(c) if so, the reasons prompting setting up of a new Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) The Sarkaria Commission had made 247 recommendations on various aspects relating to Centre-State relations. All these recommendations have been considered by the Inter-State Council. Decisions on the recommendations have been taken by the Council as per its established procedure. Out of 247 recommendations, 179 recommendations have been implemented, 82 have not been accepted and 6 recommendations are at various stages of implementation.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to set up a new Commission on Centre-State relations keeping in view the sea-changes that have taken place in the polity and economy of India since the Sarkaria Commission last looked at the issue of Centre-State relations over two decades ago.